

Dear Community of East Liverpool, Ohio:

My name is Professor Rosemarie Bowler and I am a Neuropsychologist at San Francisco State University. In July 2011, San Francisco State University received federal funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to conduct a community health study of adults exposed to environmental manganese in East Liverpool, Ohio.

An East Liverpool community meeting and study announcement will take place September 15, 2011 from 6:30 -7:30 p.m. at the East Liverpool Motor Lodge 2340 Dresden Avenue East Liverpool, OH 43920. The proposed dates for the health study are November 3-4-5 (and part of 6th), 2011. The location of the study activities will be the East Liverpool Motor Lodge 2340 Dresden Avenue East Liverpool, OH 43920.

Besides me and my team from San Francisco State University, manganese experts from Belgium, and South Korea, will be present at the study to assist with the neurological and neuropsychological testing. Additionally, we will ask you for permission to draw a small amount of your blood and collect hair and toenail clippings which will be analyzed in a certified laboratory for levels of manganese and other chemicals. The total time commitment to participate in this health study is approximately 2.5 (average time) to 4 hours.

Community recruitment for this study is planned to begin in September 2011 and will focus on the neighborhoods close to three (3) community air monitor stations on the east side of East Liverpool. We will select residents around the air monitors and send recruitment letter with postage-paid return cards to indicate their interest in participating in the study. A total of 110 individuals between 30-75 years old will be selected to participate.

If you receive a letter from us and are willing to participate and willing to complete and return the enclosed postage-paid return card, you will later be contacted by a representative of our study team who will ask you some screening questions to determine if your background meets the study participation criteria and answer any questions you might have about the study.

Up to two persons per household can participate, they will **each** receive a **\$50 gift card to any Walmart** store as a token of our appreciation for your time.

The San Francisco State University study will likely be completed by mid to late summer 2012. Each participant will receive his/her confidential results in a feedback letter. The overall group findings will be shared with the community.

In addition to the gift card, participants will be able to receive a free individual medical evaluation of their neurological and neuropsychological health conducted by trained health professionals.

We look forward to our visit in East Liverpool on September 15 and hope the residents of East Liverpool will be willing to participate in this community health study.

Sincerely,

Rosemarie Bowler, Ph.D., M.P.H.